IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hugh R. Sharkey et al. Art Unit: 3739

Serial No.: 10/712,063 Examiner: Michael F. Peffley

Filed: November 14, 2003 Conf. No.: 9046

Tide : METHOD FOR TREATING INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request consideration of the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449 form.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), a copy of the non-patent reference is enclosed.

This statement is being filed after a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of this statement. The fee in the amount of \$180 for payment of the late submission of §1.17(p) is being paid concurrently herewith on the electronic filing system (EFS) via deposit account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 43,881

Date: May 11, 2007 Timothy W. Riffe

PTO Customer No.: 26166 Fish & Richardson P.C. 1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005-3500 Telephone: (202) 783-5070 Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 22416-014004	Application No. 10/712,063	
	closure Statement	Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.		
(Use several s	neets if necessary)	Filing Date	Group Art Unit	
(37 CER \$1 98/6))		November 14, 2003	3739	

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig, ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
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	AH						
	AI						***************************************
	AJ						***************************************
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Desig.	Document	Publication	Country or Patent Office			Translation		
Initial	ID	Number	Date	Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL							
	AM					***************************************		
	AN							
	AO			7,000				
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)				
Examiner	Desig.	A		
Initial	ID	Document		
	AQ	Thomas J Kirwin, "The Treatment of Prostatic Hypocrtrophy by a New "Shrinkage"" Method", J. Urol; vol 32; 1934, pp 481-494		
	AR			
	AS			
	AT			

	Examiner Signature	Date Considered					
	EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with						
9	next communication to applicant.						